

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of ~~screening for and/or diagnosis of hypoxia-related conditions~~ diagnosing cervical, breast, colon, renal, lung or uterine cancer in a subject and or monitoring the effectiveness of therapy for said condition, which comprises ~~the step of~~
 - a) detecting and/or quantifying in a biological sample obtained from said subject an SC6 polypeptide ~~which~~
 - a) ~~comprises or consists of~~ comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1; and
 - b) ~~is a variant having one or more amino acid substitutions, deletions, insertions or modifications relative to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 provided that such variant exhibits the immunological and/or transporter activity of the polypeptide with the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1; or~~
 - c) ~~is a fragment of a polypeptide as defined in a) or b) above, which is at least ten amino acids long~~
 - b) comparing the level of SC6 polypeptide in a biological sample obtained from the subject with the level of SC6 polypeptide in a normal sample wherein a diagnosis of cervical, breast, colon, renal, lung or uterine cancer is made if an elevated level of said SC6 polypeptide occurs in the subject relative to the level of said SC6 polypeptide in the normal sample.
2. (withdrawn) A method of screening for and/or diagnosis of hypoxia related conditions in a subject and or monitoring the effectiveness of therapy for said condition, which comprises the step of detecting and/or quantifying in a biological sample obtained from said subject the amount of an isolated or recombinant DNA nucleic acid sequence which
 - a) comprises or consists of the DNA sequence of SEQ ID No. 2, or its RNA equivalent;
 - b) is a sequence which is complementary to the sequences of a); c) is a sequence which codes for the same polypeptide as the sequences of a) or b); d) is a sequence which shows substantial identity with any of those of a), b) and c); or e) is a sequence which codes for

a variant or fragment of SEQ ID No. 1.

3. (withdrawn) An antibody that specifically binds to an SC6 polypeptide as defined in claim 1.

4. (withdrawn) An antibody according to claim 3 wherein the antibody is monoclonal, polyclonal, chimeric, humanised or bispecific, or is conjugated to a therapeutic moiety, second antibody or a fragment thereof, a cytotoxic agent or cytokine.

5. (original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the polypeptide is detected and/or quantified using an antibody that specifically binds to an SC6 polypeptide.

6. (withdrawn) A method of screening for agents that modulate (i) the expression or activity of an SC6 polypeptide as defined in claim 1, or (ii) the expression of a nucleic acid molecule, said nucleic acid molecule comprising an isolated or recombinant DNA nucleic acid sequence which a) comprises or consists of the DNA sequence of SEQ ID No. 2, or its RNA equivalent; b) is a sequence which is complementary to the sequences of a); c) is a sequence which codes for the same polypeptide as the sequences of a) or b); d) is a sequence which shows substantial identity with any of those of a), b) and c); or e) is a sequence which codes for a variant or fragment of SEQ ID No. 1, said method comprising comparing the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule, in the presence of a candidate agent with the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule, in the absence of the candidate agent or in the presence of a control agent; and determining whether the candidate agent causes the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule, to change.

7. (withdrawn) A method of screening for agents that interact with an SC6 polypeptide,

said method comprising contacting said polypeptide with a candidate agent and determining whether or not the candidate agent interacts with said polypeptide.

8. (withdrawn) The method of claim 6 wherein the expression or activity level of said polypeptide, or the expression level of said nucleic acid molecule is compared with a predetermined reference range.

9. (withdrawn) An agent identified by the method of claim 6, which inhibits or down-regulates the expression or activity of said polypeptide, or the expression of said nucleic acid molecule.

10. (withdrawn) A method for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of a subject suffering from a hypoxia related condition, which comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a member selected from the group consisting of: (i) an SC6 polypeptide as defined in claim 1, (ii) a nucleic acid molecule, said nucleic acid molecule comprising an isolated or recombinant DNA nucleic acid sequence which a) comprises or consists of the DNA sequence of SEQ ID No. 2, or its RNA equivalent; b) is a sequence which is complementary to the sequences of a); c) is a sequence which codes for the same polypeptide as the sequences of a) or b); d) is a sequence which shows substantial identity with any of those of a), b) and c); or e) is a sequence which codes for a variant or fragment of SEQ ID No. 1, and (iii) an agent which inhibits or down-regulates the expression or activity of an SC6 polypeptide.

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled)

13. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein the agent is an antibody that

specifically binds to an SC6 polypeptide.

14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)